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# **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANTI-TERRORISM SUMMARY**



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**Two lakes expected to release close to 1 million acre feet of water in 2011.** The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers estimates the total releases from the Pipestem and Jamestown dams to be between 800,000 and 900,000 acre feet this year. The amount of water that will pass through Jamestown on the James River in 2011 more than doubles any year's flow but 2009, which was about 530,000 acre feet, according to information from the Corps. "The levels started deviating from the normal in June. The Pipestem is about three months behind schedule," one official said adding, "the Jamestown Dam is about three-and-a-half months behind. We just have more water behind the dams than we should have this time of year." Combined releases of 1,800 cubic feet per second (cfs) began in May. The Corps maintained that release level until late in August when releases were increased to 2,100 cfs with plans to reach 2,400 cfs by September 3. Source:

<http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/143250/>

### **Pasta prices rise after North Dakota loses million acres of wheat to heavy rain, flooding.**

Consumers are paying more for pasta after heavy spring rain and record flooding prevented planting on more than 1 million acres in one of the nation's best durum wheat-growing areas, the Associated Press reported September 2. North Dakota typically grows almost three-fourths of the nation's durum, and its crop is prized for its golden color and high protein. This year's crop is expected to be only about 24.6 million bushels, or about two-fifths of last year's. Total U.S. production is pegged at 59 million bushels, a little more than half of last year's and the least since 2006, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said. Arizona, California, Minnesota, Montana, and South Dakota also produce durum. In northwest North Dakota, fields normally flush with wheat are full of frogs. That, combined with a smaller-than-usual stockpile, has pushed up prices on everything from alphabet noodles to ziti. The cost of pasta jumped about 20 cents in the past few months to an average of \$1.48 a pound nationwide, said the president of Kansas City, Missouri-based American Italian Pasta Co., the nation's largest maker of dry pasta. Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/industries/pasta-prices-rise-after-north-dakota-loses-million-acres-of-wheat-to-heavy-rain-flooding/2011/09/02/gIQAHzHyvJ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/industries/pasta-prices-rise-after-north-dakota-loses-million-acres-of-wheat-to-heavy-rain-flooding/2011/09/02/gIQAHzHyvJ_story.html)

**Corps to increase Jamestown, Pipestem releases.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said it will increase releases from the Jamestown and Pipestem reservoirs in North Dakota to a combined level of 2,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) on August 29. Construction of emergency levees by the city of Jamestown is expected to be completed the weekend of September 2, which will provide a capacity of approximately 2,400 cfs. The releases are expected to cause river levels to rise about 0.3 feet. If required, 50-cubic-feet-per-second increases will begin as early as Wednesday until the target flow is reached. Source:

<http://www.devilslakejournal.com/newsnow/x626595519/Corps-to-increase-Jamestown-Pipestem-releases>

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### **REGIONAL**

**(South Dakota) Cause of unusual problem at Oahe Dam identified.** The Army Corps of Engineers discovered August 29 that a missing chain was to blame for a stuck-open gate on one of the six emergency outlet tunnels underneath the Oahe Dam on the Missouri River in South Dakota. The Corps told KCCR radio that 1 of 4 chains that lifts and drops the gate was missing, likely washed away by heavy water releases this summer. They said if the 8-foot-long chain that weighs upwards of a ton cannot be found downriver it will have to be replaced. The unusual problem was reported a week ago. The Corps says it does not affect the stability of the dam. Source: <http://www.kcautv.com/story/15359492/cause-of-unusual-problem-at-oahe-dam-identified>

**(Wyoming) Grizzly killed Yellowstone hiker found dead in park.** A 59-year-old hiker found dead August 26 on a backcountry trail in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming was killed by a grizzly bear in the park's second fatal bear mauling this summer, park officials said August 29. The two fatal attacks occurred within several miles of one another, and park officials were examining whether the same bear was involved in both incidents, a Yellowstone spokesman said. The body of the Chassell, Michigan man was discovered by two other hikers along the Mary Mountain Trail amid signs of grizzly activity at the scene, including bear tracks. But it had not been clear until an autopsy was performed whether the man was the victim of a bear attack or if his body had been scavenged after he had died by other means. —Results from an autopsy conducted August 28 concluded that Wallace died as a result of traumatic injuries from a bear attack, a U.S. Park Service statement said. Source: <http://news.yahoo.com/autopsy-confirms-grizzly-killed-yellowstone-hiker-164640318.html>

**(Wyoming) Blast at Wyoming oil production site kills 3 workers.** An explosion at a Wyoming oil storage site killed three workers August 29 and sparked a small fire, an oil company spokesman said. The blast at about 10 a.m. in Converse County in eastern Wyoming happened as the workers were laying a fuel line that was intended to supply a heater treatment facility that separates oil from water as they are pumped out of the ground, Samson Resources Company spokesman said. A subsequent fire burned about 10 acres before it was brought under control. The workers were employed by a contractor that the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based Samson had hired to bring an oil well back into production at the site. The well wasn't involved in the explosion and fire, which happened on the Hornbuckle Ranch, about 50 miles northeast of Casper. The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported the week of August 22 that the number of occupational fatalities in the state rose to 34 last year - an increase of nearly 79 percent from the year before. Of the 34 workplace deaths in the state last year, 10 were in natural resources and mining. Source: [http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/08/29/general-us-wyoming-oil-explosion\\_8649445.html](http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/08/29/general-us-wyoming-oil-explosion_8649445.html)

### **NATIONAL**

**U.S. security intensifying as Sept. 11 date nears.** As the United States prepares for the 10-year anniversary of the September 11th attacks — a date al-Qa'ida has cited as a potential

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opportunity to strike again — security is intensifying at airports, train stations, nuclear plants, and major sporting arenas. “At this point there is no specific credible threat, but that doesn’t mean we are relaxing at all in terms of our vigilance,” the U.S. President’s homeland security and counterterrorism adviser said August 31. There will be increased law enforcement presence on Los Angeles transit systems during the “threat window,” with bomb sniffing dogs, and random baggage searches. In Phoenix, Arizona, police will be doing more patrols around the region’s nuclear power plant, airports, and other critical sites that, if attacked, could affect the city, said a sergeant at the homeland defense bureau of the Phoenix Police Department. In Florida, there will be extended staffing at the state’s fusion center — an intelligence-sharing operation established after the September 11th attacks that places law enforcement from around the state, as well as representatives from the FBI, DHS, and the Transportation Security Administration in one building, said the center’s director. New Yorkers will see more police officers on patrol in and around ground zero, where the World Trade Center towers stood, said a police department spokesman. The department also plans an increased show of force in the subways, which are always considered a potential terror target. Source:

<http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/us-security-intensifying-as-1152804.html>

**Food airlifted into towns cut off by Irene.** Vermont on August 30 began airlifting food and water to a dozen towns cut off by Irene, while New Jersey saw new flood evacuations, and across the East Coast power outages, while down by half, impacted millions. Irene has been blamed for at least 42 deaths in 12 states. Power outages were still widespread from north to south on August 30, with utilities reporting more than 2.8 million homes and businesses without electricity, which translates to nearly 6 million people. In Connecticut, around 516,000, or 33 percent of all customers in the state, were still in the dark August 30, the U.S. Department of Energy reported. New York state reported that 563,000 customers were without power. Crews have been restoring power at a fast rate, but tens of thousands of homeowners and businesses might not get theirs back for a week or more. Eastham, Massachusetts, is still mostly cut off. In Wakefield, New Hampshire, 70 percent of the town’s customers are off the grid. And nearly half of the 491,000 homes and businesses in the Richmond, Virginia metro area are blacked out. During the course of Irene, 7.4 million customers lost power — nearly double the outages from the last hurricane to make landfall in the U.S. in 2008. Source:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44324289/ns/weather/t/food-airlifted-vermont-towns-cut-irene/#.TI0-dF2PxGA>

## **INTERNATIONAL**

**102 die in Nigeria after dam collapse, flooding.** Flooding claimed the lives of 102 people in southwestern Nigeria, where a dam burst and a river overflowed near the city of Ibadan, officials said August 31. A rain deluge over the weekend of August 27 and 28 caused the Odo Ona River to overflow and the Eleyele dam to collapse, said the government’s National Emergency Management Agency. The Nigerian Red Cross said that more victims could still be found in remote areas that rescue teams have not reached. Thousands of people have been displaced while the deputy governor of Oyo state called for more federal help to resettle those

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displaced, and to rebuild bridges and water channels destroyed by the flooding. Source:  
<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/08/31/nigeria.flooding/>

### **BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY**

**Unauthorized workers in U.S. claimed \$4.2 billion in tax credits last year.** Tax filers who were not authorized to work in the United States collected \$4.2 billion in tax credits in 2010, a Treasury Department watchdog reported September 1. Although federal law prohibits people residing illegally in the United States from receiving most public benefits, an increasing number filed tax returns claiming the additional child tax credit intended for working families, according to the September 1 report by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. "The payment of federal funds through this tax benefit appears to provide an additional incentive for aliens to enter, reside, and work in the United States without authorization, which contradicts federal law and policy to remove such incentives," the report said. The recipients did not qualify for Social Security numbers, and filed tax returns using individual taxpayer identification numbers supplied by the Internal Revenue Service. Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-09-01/tax-credits-of-4-2-billion-claimed-by-unauthorized-u-s-workers.html>

**(California) ATM skimmers arrested in Manteca might be part of an Armenian gang.** Two men were arraigned in Manteca, California superior court August 30, accused of being members of an Armenian gang that steals money by placing skimming devices on ATM machines. The men faced numerous felony counts, after being caught on surveillance video attaching the devices to an ATM machine by a bank employee. The bank worker notified the Tracy Police Department who staked out the bank in an unmarked car and arrested the men when they returned to the bank. A judge set bail at \$2 million each, saying the men are a flight risk. Source:

<http://www.news10.net/news/local/article/152641/2/Manteca-ATM-skimmers-could-be-part-of-large-ring>

**IRS warns taxpayers of widespread scam.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) August 29 warned taxpayers to be on the lookout for a widespread scam targeting church congregations and civic groups. An IRS spokesman said the new scam is aimed at getting unsuspecting taxpayers to fill out illegitimate claims for IRS refunds or tax credits and to pay the scammers for filling out the fraudulent paperwork. Unlike the common Internet, email, and phone scams, the new scam involves teams of individuals appearing in person at churches and civic groups to entice people into filing for refunds to which they are not entitled. The IRS spokesman said the traveling scam predominantly focuses on claims people can obtain refunds of the Social Security taxes they have paid over the years by transferring their Social Security benefits to the IRS and then filing for a credit. Victims of the scam pay the scammers to fill out the fraudulent paperwork, which is mailed into the IRS and duly rejected. The scam is believed to have originated in Alabama, and it has since been reported to IRS officials in 33 states. The spokesman said it now is being seen in Arkansas, "and it looks to be headed towards Oklahoma." Source:

<http://enidnews.com/localnews/x1823386236/IRS-warns-taxpayers-of-widespread-scam>

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**Treasury targets additional Syrian government officials for sanctions.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury August 30 announced the designations of three senior officials of the government of Syria – Syria’s Foreign and Expatriates Minister, Syria’s Presidential Political and Media Adviser, and Syria’s Ambassador to Lebanon – pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13573. Signed by the U.S. President on May 18, 2011, E.O. 13573 targets senior officials of the government of Syria. On August 18, 2011, the President signed E.O. 13582, imposing additional sanctions – the strongest to date – against the government of Syria and its instrumentalities, including its Central Bank and its energy sector. As a result of the August 30 action, U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with any of the designees and any assets they may have subject to U.S. jurisdiction are frozen. Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1283.aspx>

**Fake FDIC emails spread malware.** Security researchers from Sophos reported a wave of malicious e-mails posing as official notifications from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) August 30. The rogue e-mails bear a subject of —FDIC notification and have their headers spoofed to appear as originating from a no.reply@fdic.gov address. As most spam e-mails, the body message is full of mistakes, which should serve as indication that it did not originate from a government agency. The fake emails contain an attachment named FDIC\_document.zip as well as an executable file of the same name. The file has a PDF icon and since Windows 7 does not display known file extensions, it might easily trick users. The file is actually a computer trojan that serves as a distribution platform for other malware. This means that running it will probably result in multiple infections. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Fake-FDIC-Emails-Spread-Malware-219421.shtml>+

**Cyber crime gang steals \$13 million in a day.** A coordinated cyber criminal network pulled off one of the largest and most complex banking heists ever, withdrawing \$13 million in 1 day from ATMs in 6 countries. The massive breach hit Fidelity National Information Services Inc. (FIS), a Jacksonville, Florida-based firm that processes prepaid debit cards. FIS disclosed the breach May 5. According to a security researcher, the attackers first broke into FIS’s network and gained unauthorized access to the company’s database, where each debit card customer’s balances are stored. FIS’s prepaid debit cards include a fraud protection policy that limits the amount cardholders can withdraw from an ATM with a 24-hour period. Once the balance on the cards is reached, the cards cannot be used until their owners put more money back onto the cards. Then, the criminals obtained 22 legitimate cards, eliminated each card’s withdrawal limit, and cloned them, sending copies to conspirators in Greece, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom. When the prepaid limit on each card got too low, the hackers simply reloaded the fraudulent cards remotely. At the close of the business day March 5, the criminals began taking out money from ATMs. By March 6, the scam was over, and the attackers had stolen \$13 million. It is not clear who is behind the attack on FIS, although the characteristics of the scheme put it in line with similar crimes perpetrated by cyber criminals in Estonia and Russia. Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44291945/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-security/#.Tlu1K12PzAw](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44291945/ns/technology_and_science-security/#.Tlu1K12PzAw)

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## **CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR**

**Nuclear operators told to reassess quake risk.** Nuclear regulators said September 1 they want the operators of all 104 U.S. commercial reactors to conduct new assessments of their facilities' vulnerability to earthquake damage. The decision was motivated by the increased awareness that seismic risks may have been underestimated by nuclear-power industry and regulators in the past, especially for the central and eastern United States. A draft requirement for the new assessments has been in the works for 6 years, but gained urgency with the nuclear accident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear installation in March, and smaller earthquakes in Virginia in the past 2 weeks that sidelined two reactors. The proposal would give plant operators up to 2 years to finish their work. Once the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has updated seismic reports in hand, the agency will decide whether to order upgrades. Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904583204576544870054511938.html?mod=rss\\_US\\_News](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904583204576544870054511938.html?mod=rss_US_News)

**(Virginia) Earthquake caused massive nuclear storage casks to move.** An earthquake in central Virginia the week of August 22 caused 25 spent-fuel storage casks to move on their concrete pad at the North Anna nuclear power plant in Louisa County. The shifting of the TN-32 casks holding used nuclear fuel was the first caused by an earthquake in the United States., according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). None of the metal cylinders were damaged and no radiation was released, the plant's operator said. Federal regulators will examine data from the spent-fuel storage area as part of the inspection of the plant that the NRC began August 30. Source: <http://www2.timesdispatch.com/business/state-news/2011/aug/31/6/earthquake-caused-massive-nuclear-storage-casks-to-ar-1277791/>

**NRC: Update evacuation plans near nuclear plants.** Nuclear power plants must provide updated estimates of how long it would take to evacuate nearby communities in an emergency under a new rule approved August 30 by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Plant operators would have to update their evacuation estimates after every 10-year census, or when changes in population would increase the estimated time by at least 30 minutes. The new rule limits the duties of a plant's onsite emergency responders to ensure they are not overburdened during an emergency. It also requires plants to incorporate scenarios based on a terrorist attack or other criminal action in emergency drills and exercises. The rule adds new requirements for back-up measures to alert the public and plant employees in case of emergency. Source:

<http://news.yahoo.com/nrc-evacuation-plans-near-nuclear-plants-225104304.html>

**(Virginia) Virginia quake's motion may have exceeded nuclear plant's design.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sent additional inspectors to Virginia's North Anna nuclear power station in Louisa County, Virginia, August 29 after early data indicated the plant may have experienced more shaking than it was designed to withstand during a 5.8 earthquake the week of August 22. The plant remains offline and will not be restarted until its operator, Dominion Virginia Power, can show the NRC that it remains safe. Dominion and NRC inspectors began conducting a thorough inspection of the safety systems and physical structures of the plant. So far they have found no indication of significant damage, according to a Dominion spokesman.



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Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/nationnow/2011/08/virginia-quakes-motion-may-have-exceeded-nuclear-plants-design.html>

**Cesium in incinerator dust across east Japan.** High levels of cesium isotopes were reported in dust at 42 waste incineration plants in seven Japanese prefectures, according to a Japanese Environment Ministry survey released August 29. According to the report, the highest cesium levels in the dust ranged from 95,300 becquerels in Fukushima Prefecture and 70,800 becquerels in Chiba Prefecture to 30,000 becquerels in Iwate Prefecture. Lower levels in the dust exceeded 8,000 becquerels per kilogram in Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, and Tokyo. Local governments have been instructed to temporarily store their ash and dust at disposal sites until the panel reaches a conclusion on permanent disposal methods. Source: <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20110829a5.html>

### **COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**(Michigan) Detroit bomb squad called out two days in a row.** The bomb squad in Detroit, Michigan, had to suit up twice the week of August 29, facing two unconnected and radically different assignments. The squad showed up at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Building August 29, after the Detroit Police Department (DPD) received a 911 call regarding a suspicious package in a parking lot reserved for the mayor and members of the city council. The bomb squad blew up the backpack at the scene using external explosives. Then, August 30, the bomb squad was called to the 2nd Ebenezer Church, where the DPD was conducting a gun buy-back program. There, a customer had turned in two fragmentation grenades. The police did not know if the grenades were 'live' or not so they called in the bomb squad. Team members transferred the devices an unused part of the church. They will likely take the grenades to Belle Isle and have them detonated. Source: <http://www.examiner.com/crime-in-detroit/detroit-bomb-squad-called-out-two-days-a-row>

### **COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR**

**Report says space debris past 'tipping point,' NASA needs to step up action.** Space debris has passed the "tipping point," according to a report released September 1 by the National Research Council, which called on NASA to find ways to better monitor and clean up the orbiting junk threatening active satellites, and manned spacecraft. "We're going to have a lot more [debris] collisions, and at an increasingly frequent rate," said a former NASA scientist who chaired the committee that prepared the report. The orbiting objects include ejected rockets and broken satellites. Recent data underscore the growing problem. Two collisions since January 2007 helped at least double the number of trackable debris fragments that are in Earth's orbit, according to the report. U.S. Strategic Command said there are more than 22,000 such pieces in orbit. NASA estimates there could be hundreds of thousands — or even millions — of smaller, non-trackable pieces of debris also in space. Active satellites are at risk of damage and "as the amount of debris increases, there will be increases in the cost of operating" satellites, said a technical adviser with the Secure World Foundation. Source:

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[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/reports-says-space-debris-past-tipping-point-nasa-needs-to-step-up-action/2011/08/31/gIQAo6WTuJ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/reports-says-space-debris-past-tipping-point-nasa-needs-to-step-up-action/2011/08/31/gIQAo6WTuJ_story.html)

**FCC fines calling card companies for deceptive marketing.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced September 1 \$20 million in fines against 4 prepaid calling card companies for allegedly using deceptive marketing practices. According to the FCC, STi Telecom, Lyca Tel, Touch-Tel USA, and Locus Telecommunications scammed consumers by claiming they could make hundreds of minutes of calls to foreign countries for only a few dollars. In fact, because of hidden fees and surcharges, consumers could only use a fraction of those minutes, the FCC said. The FCC fined the companies \$5 million each. In one case the FCC investigated, consumers would have to make a single 13-hour phone call to receive the advertised number of minutes. If the consumers made more than one call, they would receive a smaller fraction of the card value. In another case, a card that promised 1,000 minutes was exhausted after a single 60-minute phone call. According to investigators, the companies targeted low-income and minority communities. The FCC also released an enforcement advisory September 1 to raise awareness about deceptive prepaid calling cards. Source: <http://thehill.com/blogs/hillcon-valley/technology/179301-fcc-fines-calling-card-companies-for-deceptive-marketing>

**Hackers push Sipvicious VoIP tools in malicious attacks.** Researchers at NSS Labs claim they have spotted attacks that use Sipvicious, a common auditing tool for Voice over IP (VoIP) networks as part of malicious attacks aimed at taking control of vulnerable VoIP servers. The attacks are apparently aimed at taking control of VoIP servers to place unauthorized calls. A description of the attacks, posted on the NSS blog August 31, said researchers at NSS witnessed the sipvicious tool installed by a trojan downloader program on systems, most of which had first been compromised in drive-by Web site attacks. The attacks use a known trojan, jqs(dot)exe, and connect to command and control servers to receive instructions on downloading instructions as well as the sipvicious tool from a .cc domain. After installation, sipvicious is run to scan for Session Initiation Protocol devices on the compromised computer's network and then to launch brute force attacks to guess the administrative password on those systems. Source: [http://threatpost.com/en\\_us/blogs/hackers-pushing-sipvicious-voip-tools-malicious-attacks-083111](http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/hackers-pushing-sipvicious-voip-tools-malicious-attacks-083111)

**Irene's wrath leaves 6,500 cell towers out, FCC says.** Updated figures released by federal officials August 29 showed 6,500 cell towers and sites were damaged or disrupted as a result of Hurricane Irene. That number includes about 44 percent of all cell sites in Vermont, which suffered massive flooding that cut off dozens of towns. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) updated its count of outages at 3 p.m. EDT August 29, based on reports to the FCC by registered communications providers. The FCC reported more than four times as many cell site outages August 29 than it did August 28, taking into account the more recent ravages of Irene in New England states such as Vermont and Connecticut. The count August 29 was 6,500, compared with 1,400 cell site outages August 28. The August 29 figures also showed 210,000 wired customers out of service that afternoon, compared to 132,000 August 28. Twice as many customers, 1 million, were without cable service August 29, compared with 500,000

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August 28, the FCC said. Also, 2 TV stations and 10 radio stations were down as of August 29, the FCC said. The updated FCC figures show about 44 percent of all cell sites were out in Vermont, 35 percent in Connecticut, 31 percent in Rhode Island, and 25 percent in Virginia. In North Carolina, the percentage dropped to 11 percent of cell sites down, an improvement from 14 percent of the total registered August 28, the FCC said. Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219567/Irene s wrath leaves 6 500 cell towers out FCC says](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219567/Irene_s_wrath_leaves_6_500_cell_towers_out_FCC_says)

### **CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

Nothing Significant to Report

### **DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR**

**Report: Manufacturers lost track of more than 16,000 guns since 2009.** Thousands of firearms have gone missing from manufacturers' inventories since 2009 "without a record of being legally sold," according to a report released September 1 by a gun control advocacy group. The report by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence put the number of missing weapons at 16,485. The report suggests some guns may never have had serial numbers stamped into them, making them virtually impossible to trace. The group said the missing guns are often used by criminals because they are hard to trace. The report does not mention which manufacturers are reported to having missing firearms. The Brady Center said the data was collected from a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) report presented to the gun industry in August. The study states ATF conducts compliance examinations at only about 20 percent of gun dealers and manufacturers each year, and said as a result, "The 16,485 'missing' guns are likely a vast undercount of the total number of guns that disappeared from gun manufacturers in the last two and a half years." The Publisher of American Firearms Industry Magazine slammed the report, saying "The Brady spin and implication that some manufacturers, whose names are not mentioned so we can't check the charges, are knowingly selling guns before they are logged into the manufacturer's records is absolutely ridiculous." Source:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/US/09/01/missing.guns.report/index.html>

**Syrian chemical weapons safe, U.S. and Israel say.** The United States recently announced it believes Syria has control over its chemical weapons stockpile after reports surfaced that it and Israel fear militants could seize them during anti-government protests, Bio Prep Watch reported August 31. The two countries have been monitoring the Syrian stockpile because they fear terrorist groups might take advantage of the chaos to obtain chemical agents as well as long-range missiles, according to the Wall Street Journal. Agence France Presse reported a State Department spokeswoman said the United States believes "Syria's chemical stockpile remains under government control" and that "there is no change in the lockdown status." She added, "Syria has a stockpile of nerve agent and some mustard gas, and we will continue to work closely with like-minded countries to ensure that there is no proliferation of that material." The Wall Street Journal cited unnamed sources who said U.S. intelligence services believe Syria maintains stockpiles of mustard agent, VX, and Sarin nerve gas, along with missile and artillery-

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based delivery systems. Current and former U.S. officials believe Syria maintains at least five sites where it produces chemical weapons, but the facilities are spread across the country and are very difficult to monitor, according to the Wall Street Journal. Source:

<http://bioprepwatch.com/news/263594-syrian-chemical-weapons-safe-us-and-israel-say>

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Post-9/11, emergency radios still not connected.** Amid the chaos of the September 11 attacks in 2001, emergency responders found they could not communicate with each other. That problem persists 10 years later, according to a review of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations. A National Preparedness Group report released August 31 concludes the recommendation that a nationwide broadband network for emergency responders be created "continues to languish." Law enforcement and emergency responders around the country have long supported the creation of the communication network. In January, the U.S. President announced his support for allocating the radio space, known as the D-block spectrum, to police and other emergency workers. Several big wireless carriers have supported auctioning off the airwaves to the wireless industry, a move the government has estimated would raise about \$3.1 billion. That could help pay to build a public safety communications network. The National Preparedness Group report said statewide communications interoperability plans and the creation of a national emergency communications plan have improved emergency coordination across different jurisdictions. But more work needs to be done and the ultimate solution, the report said, is to follow the 9/11 Commission's recommendation and create a nationwide communications network. Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/post-911-emergency-radios-still-not-connected>

**(New York; District of Columbia) Suspicious packages swamp law enforcement.** An unrelenting stream of suspicious package reports — and the need to investigate all potential threats in the post-9/11 world — is stretching federal and local law enforcement agencies in New York and Washington, D.C. One of the many legacies of the September 11th terrorist attacks, police agencies depend more than ever on the public to vigilantly report suspicious activity, knowing their cooperation means authorities will be buried in reports, most of which turn out to be nothing. What's more, the reports routinely force street closures and building evacuations in Washington, D.C., and New York at a cost of unknown millions of dollars, according to police estimates. Since the terrorist attacks in 2001, New York City police (NYPD) have fielded 83,749 such calls — the overwhelming majority resulting in the recovery of benign handbags, kids' backpacks, suitcases, and trash bags discarded by the homeless, according to NYPD records. Last year, after 4 years of steady decline, the number of calls in New York surged to 10,567, up from 7,411 in 2009. In Washington, D.C., the numbers, though smaller, have been rising for the past 4 years, in part because of an aggressive national surveillance strategy called "If You See Something, Say Something" launched last year by the DHS, said the executive director of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department's Intelligence Fusion Division. Federal and local officials said the calls are part of a new normal in law enforcement. Yet some acknowledge that maintaining the pace of response has been a daunting task in the 10 years since the United States suffered its last major terrorist attack. Source:

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<http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/story/2011-08-31/Suspicious-packages-swamp-law-enforcement/50206590/1>

**(Arizona) VOIP 911: A low-cost way to expand emergency comm.** The nation's emergency 911 call systems are evolving to accommodate wireless communications and take advantage of the data, text, and video capabilities of ubiquitous IP networks. But voice traffic also is moving to IP networks, creating new opportunities and challenges, especially for 911 services in which budgets are tight and high availability and reliability are essential. Bandwidth is becoming cheap, but reliability remains expensive. "Right now, we are using voice over IP in pockets," said the technical manager for an Arizona consortium of emergency services departments. The consortium would like to move voice entirely to the IP network and eliminate the legacy voice components. "Maintaining both networks is expensive." Maricopa Region 911 is solving the expense vs. reliability equation with Adaptive Private Networking, an intelligent link-aggregation tool that can combine multiple networking paths into a single virtual high-availability WAN. The Maricopa Region 911 is a governmental consortium formed in the mid-1980s to provide 911 services in the Phoenix metro area, including the communities of Scottsdale and Mesa. The primary job is to ensure that emergency calls, together with the associated information, are routed to the proper one of 25 public service answering points in the region. Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2011/09/05/arizona-voip-911.aspx>

**(Connecticut) Social media allows instant connection between residents and public safety in emergencies.** When Hurricane Irene touched down in Southington, Connecticut, August 28, calls began to flood the Emergency Operations Center at the Southington Police Department. The town manager, Southington Police chief, and Southington Fire chief quickly compiled the information regarding downed wires, fallen trees, and closed roads. Two minutes later, a Southington Police sergeant had the information online. For the past several years, the Southington Police Department has used Facebook and Twitter as a primary means of communication between the department, media, and members of the public. Over the weekend of August 26, the decision to keep an open line of communications through social media outlets paid dividends for the department and town residents. Although the system has been in place for a few years and has been used to provide information regarding road closures and public hazards during snowstorms and other events, the police sergeant said this was the first time the department was able to use it during a declared state of emergency. The department utilized the social media to post 28 separate releases August 27 through August 29, giving updates on everything from the latest conditions to the number of power outages, recovery and safety tips, and more. Source: <http://southington.patch.com/articles/social-media-allows-instant-connection-between-residents-and-public-safety-in-emergencies>

**(Oklahoma) Nighttime attack exposes security weakness in Oklahoma's juvenile detention system.** A vicious nighttime attack August 5 that caused a brain injury to a boy at a Tecumseh institution for juvenile offenders spotlighted a security weakness within Oklahoma's juvenile system. When the Legislature decided to close the L.E. Rader Center in Sand Springs, the system lost its capability to lock violence-prone juvenile offenders in their rooms at night. The victim was—in bed with the covers pulled up—when he was severely beaten by another juvenile on

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the evening of August 5, said the Pottawatomie County district attorney, who has received an investigative report on the incident. The sleeping rooms at the medium-security Central Oklahoma Juvenile Center in Tecumseh, where the attack occurred, are cubbyholes off a large community room. They do not have doors and can not be locked, he said. Source:

<http://newsok.com/nighttime-attack-exposes-security-weakness-in-oklahomas-juvenile-detention-system/article/3599254>

## **ENERGY**

**Frustrations for 900K still without power.** With Hurricane Irene's floodwaters receding across much of the East Coast, frustrations were rising as the wait for power drags on, with an estimated 895,000 homes and businesses still without electricity as of September 1. And criticism of utility companies was mounting. In Rhode Island, a state senator called for an investigation, and a Massachusetts lawmaker plans to file legislation the week of September 5 that would require utilities to rebate customers 2 days of service for every day they are without power. In North Carolina, a councilman was accused of threatening an electricity repair worker because the councilman was angry about which neighborhoods were being restored first. The industry has defended its efforts, noting it warned the public that a storm like Irene was bound to cause prolonged outages and pointing out that flooding and toppled trees caused severe damage to utility poles, substations, and other equipment. The National Grid president for Rhode Island said crews from as far as Kansas and Idaho were working 16-hour shifts, and "we're committed to getting this resolved as soon as possible." Source:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/09/02/national/main20100873.shtml>

**(California) U.S. blames utility, regulators for pipeline blast.** Investigators August 30 blamed a utility's lax approach to pipeline safety and weak government oversight for a California natural gas explosion that destroyed a neighborhood and killed eight people nearly a year ago. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said in a scathing report on the blast in San Bruno that Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E) for years exploited regulatory weaknesses. "We also identified regulators that placed a blind trust in the companies that they were charged with overseeing to the detriment of public safety," the NTSB Chairman said. The half-century-old gas transmission line ruptured September 9, 2010, ejecting a 28-foot section of pipe and igniting a ferocious fire that destroyed 38 homes and damaged 70 others. Eight people were killed and dozens of others were hurt. The safety board found the piping installed 4-feet underground in 1956 did not meet certain specifications and the welds were poorly constructed. Poor quality control and follow-up, the board said, resulted in the defective piping going undetected for decades. The blast, investigators said, was "clearly preventable." Regulatory exemptions of certain rules by the California Public Utility Commission and the U.S. Transportation Department contributed to the explosion, the safety board said. The NTSB has issued a number of urgent safety recommendations to regulators and the pipeline industry to address the deficiencies it identified during its investigation. Source:

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1E77T1X620110831>

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**Oil spiller's Website infected with malicious code.** The official Web site of Transocean, the company, which operated the deep water drilling platform that exploded in 2010 and lead to the biggest oil spill disaster in history, was compromised and infected with malicious code. Swiss-based Transocean is one of the world's largest offshore drilling contractors. The company rents floating drill rigs to oil and gas companies worldwide. Researchers from security vendor Websense reported August 25 that Transocean's [www.deepwater.com](http://www.deepwater.com) Web site was infected with two malicious iframes that led visitors to drive-by download exploits. The fact that exploits were hosted on the same server makes this attack a bit unusual, because drive-by attacks normally use externally-hosted malicious code. This suggests that the method of compromise was not the usual SQL injection, but rather a remote file injection. The issue has since been fixed. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Oil-Spiller-s-Website-Infected-with-Malicious-Code-218945.shtml>

**Power companies to inject \$4.1 billion into industrial control system cybersecurity.** Electricity companies are expected to invest \$4.1 billion in cybersecurity for industrial control systems between 2011 and 2018, according to Pike Research. Cybersecurity investment is predicted to increase at a relatively steady rate over the next seven years, rising from \$309 million in 2011 to \$692 million per year in 2018, according to Pike's Industrial Control Systems Security report. Security analysts identify industrial control systems and smart meters as the two most vulnerable aspects of the smart grid system from a cybersecurity perspective. In fact, the infamous Stuxnet worm attacked the industrial control systems of Iran's nuclear facilities, shutting down its uranium enrichment centrifuges. According to the Pike study, major investments in industrial control system security will include control consoles and systems, telecommunications security, human-machine interfaces, system sensors, and collectors. The enhancements are anticipated to benefit areas such as distribution automation, substation automation, and transmission upgrades. The investments are expected to create new professional opportunities, such as development and maintenance of security reference architectures for utilities' control networks, development of security policies and procedures, maintenance of employee security awareness programs for industrial control systems, and change management, according to Pike. Source: <http://www.infosecurity-us.com/view/20382>

**(California) Copper theft leaves 25,000 without power in Rialto.** The theft of copper wire caused 25,000 people to lose power August 26 in Rialto, Lytle Creek, and parts of Fontana, California. The outage was reported around 4:35 p.m., said the spokeswoman for Southern California Edison. Someone entered into one of the substations and stole the wire, she said. Repair crews responded and restored the power by 6:15 p.m. Source: [http://www.sbsun.com/ci\\_18767393?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.sbsun.com/ci_18767393?source=most_viewed)

**U.S. fuel pipeline, terminal operators report outages, flooding.** Oil terminal and pipeline operators along the U.S. East Coast shut pipelines, lost power, and reported flooding as Tropical Storm Irene passed. Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP shut its 600,000-barrel-a-day Plantation pipeline from Greensboro, North Carolina, to Washington after a power outage, a spokeswoman for the company said. The line ships oil products from Louisiana to the U.S. capital. The company's East Coast fuel terminals —fared well, a Kinder Morgan spokesman

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said. Buckeye Partners LP shut a pipeline that supplies jet fuel to John F. Kennedy and LaGuardia airports in New York City from storage in Linden, New Jersey, and halted gasoline and distillate fuel deliveries to Brooklyn and Inwood terminals. The Houston-based company was forced to shut its Laurel pipeline across Pennsylvania after its Sinking Spring and Booth terminals lost power. The company also lost power to its Wethersfield and Malvern terminals, a spokesman said. Colonial Pipeline Co. was restoring service to the Norfolk and Tidewater area of Virginia that was shut as Irene approached. Service to Selma, North Carolina, locations was restored yesterday, the Alpharetta, Georgia-based company said. Some customers, including shippers in the Norfolk, Virginia area lost power, and shut operations as Irene neared, it said. Colonial said it has maintained power at its Linden, New Jersey, complex and main lines traveling into the Northeast are operating normally. NuStar Energy LP said it expected to bring its terminal in Wilmington, North Carolina, to full operations August 29. The terminal in Paulsboro, New Jersey, remains in operation, the San Antonio-based company said in an e-mailed statement. NuStar shut several terminals along the East Coast, including ones in Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, and New Jersey, in anticipation of Irene's landing. Magellan Midstream Partners resumed operations at its terminals in Richmond, Virginia, and Selma, North Carolina. Truck loading operations at the terminal in Wilmington, Delaware, have also resumed, the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based company said in an e-mailed statement. Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-08-28/u-s-fuel-pipeline-terminal-operators-report-outages-flooding.html>

## **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**(California) Another Canada recall of U.S. walnuts.** The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and Johnvince Foods issued a warning September 1 about certain prepackaged raw shelled walnuts that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7. Johnvince Foods, based in Downsview, Ontario, said it has recalled the following raw shelled walnut products, which were imported from the United States, packaged in Canada, and distributed nationally. The recall includes: President's Choice Raw California Walnut Halves Unsalted, 250 g packages, UPC code 0 60383 87185 7, Best Before 2012 OC 07; and Reddi Snack Hand Selected California Walnuts, 350 g packages, UPC code 0 64777 28695 1 16581. In April, the Public Health Agency of Canada reported 14 cases of E. coli illness linked to walnuts imported from the United States, and distributed by Quebec-based Amira Enterprises, which recalled the nuts. Health officials said 10 people were hospitalized and three people developed hemolytic uremic syndrome, an illness associated with E. coli infections that can result in kidney failure. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/09/another-recall-in-canada-of-us-walnuts/>

**Suit could chill govt. efforts to keep food safe.** Florida-based Del Monte Fresh Product's lawsuit against the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) could have a chilling effect on regulators' efforts to get tainted food off the market. The company is striking back at the FDA with a lawsuit after the agency halted imports of its Guatemalan cantaloupes, saying they could be contaminated with salmonella. "If this case is successful from an industry perspective, it will change the attitude of regulators," said a former FDA assistant commissioner who is now a food safety consultant. The director for the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia who

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has advised the FDA on food safety issues said the lawsuit could set a dangerous precedent. “More often than not, the public health authorities and the epidemiologists are correct,” he said. “If you start putting public health officials in the crosshairs of the lawyers, it’s probably going to have a major dampening effect on whether foods are recalled in time to prevent a substantial amount of illnesses.” The case could also become a major test for the imperfect science of epidemiology that is used to trace outbreaks and determine what is causing a series of illnesses. Del Monte conducted a voluntary recall of the cantaloupes, imported from a farm in Guatemala, in March after the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and FDA determined they were linked to 12 cases of salmonella poisoning. Source:

<http://news.yahoo.com/suit-could-chill-govt-efforts-keep-food-safe-222646641.html>

**Salmonella outbreak tied to papaya over, says CDC.** Seven more patients with illness onset dates from late July brought the total number of papaya-related Salmonella Agona victims to 106 before the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) closed out its report on the outbreak. —This particular outbreak appears to be over, the CDC said August 29. Agromod Produce Inc. of McAllen, Texas, announced a recall of all its fresh whole papayas sold before July 23, but the first confirmed illnesses in the outbreak came as long ago as on or before last January 17, the CDC said. CDC’s final report on the outbreak says people who became ill ranged in age from 1 to 91 years of age. The median age of the victims was 21, and 39 percent were younger than 5. Eleven reported travel to Mexico in the week before they became ill, and 10 required hospitalization. Two states — Indiana and Kentucky — each added one case to the outbreak and brought the total number of states reporting illnesses to 25. Since August 25, all fresh whole Mexican papaya has been detained at the U.S. border unless the importer can show they are free from Salmonella contamination. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found Salmonella on 15.6 percent of papaya samples from 28 different firms and nearly all growing areas in Mexico. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/08/salmonella-agona-outbreak-is-over-says-cdc/>

**Drought drives up hay prices.** A drought in the southern Plains has caused hay prices to soar, benefiting farmers in South Dakota and other northern states but forcing many ranchers farther south to make a difficult choice between paying high prices or selling their cattle. Ranchers in much of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas are having to pay inflated prices for hay and then pay more to have it trucked hundreds of miles south. The Governor of South Dakota signed an executive order earlier in August suspending the permit requirement for oversized trucks hauling baled feed to another state. —When South Dakota has faced drought conditions, people in other states have helped us out, the South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture said in a prepared statement. —Suspending this permit requirement is one way we can get feed to those producers who need it in a timely manner. Parts of Texas have not received any rain since last fall, and forecasters predict the drought will last at least through November. The situation is not much better in western Oklahoma, southern New Mexico, and parts of southern Kansas. Officials said only a handful of Texas’ 254 counties received enough rain to grow hay this year, so significantly less is available. At the same time, demand has skyrocketed because pastures are parched. The average price of hay climbed to \$170 per ton this summer from \$112 per ton in July of 2010, according to USDA statistics. But many ranchers are paying much more

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because the price does not include shipping costs. Source:

<http://www.argusleader.com/article/20110830/BUSINESS/108300309/Drought-drives-up-hay-prices>

**(Pennsylvania) Health Department issues Brunton Dairy ice cream warning.** The Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Allegheny County Health Department issued a joint health advisory August 26, adding ice cream to the list of tainted products that the Brunton Dairy in Independence Township sold. A positive culture for *Yersinia enterocolitica* was uncovered in an unopened container of Brunton Dairy ice cream that a consumer provided to the health department. Additional testing on ice cream products from the dairy is still under way through the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. To date, 16 cases of *Yersinia enterocolitica* have been reported as a result of the outbreak – nine from Beaver County and seven from Allegheny County. Source: <http://sewickley.patch.com/articles/health-department-issues-ice-cream-warning>

**(Illinois) Company recalls more than 8,000 packages of smoked salmon.** Vita Food Products of Chicago recalled more than 8,000 packages of its smoked salmon because the product may be contaminated. The recall affects the Vita Classic Premium Sliced Smoked Atlantic Nova Salmon. The said 8,088 packages could be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. —To date, no confirmed illnesses or complaints have been reported by customers, although the company is closely monitoring the situation, the company said in a statement August 26. The salmon was sold throughout the country. Grocery stores that received the salmon include Publix in Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida. The salmon was also sold to Safeway stores in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and California. Genuardi's stores in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and Winn Dixie stores in Florida also got the salmon. Source:

[http://www.cnn.com/2011/HEALTH/08/27/salmon.recall/index.html?hpt=us\\_c2](http://www.cnn.com/2011/HEALTH/08/27/salmon.recall/index.html?hpt=us_c2)

**(California) New equine herpes virus cases diagnosed in Sonoma County.** A deadly equine virus that affected nearly two dozen California horses in the spring of 2011 was confirmed in three Sonoma County horses the week of August 22, California officials said. The neurotropic pathogenic strain of equine herpes virus was confirmed August 23 in a 15-year-old Oldenburg mare in Sonoma County, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). CDFA said the mare subsequently was isolated, quarantined, and undergoing treatment at a veterinary hospital. Horses at the same premises where the mare initially was located had their temperatures monitored twice daily, and August 24 two horses with the neuropathogenic strain of EHV-1 were confirmed there, the state said. The two affected horses showed fever as the only clinical sign, state officials said. Besides a fever of 102 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, other clinical signs the CDFA identified include nasal discharge, lack of coordination, hindquarter weakness, and a diminished tail bone, lethargy, urine dribbling, and the horse lying down more than normal. According to a CDFA brochure on the disease, it spreads from horse-to-horse contact, short distance aerosol transmission – 30 feet or less – and hands, equipment, tack, and feed that have been contaminated. Source:

<http://lakeconews.com/content/view/21210/919/>

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## **GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)**

**(Tennessee) State and local enforcement detonate bomb found in courthouse.** Authorities detonated a bomb August 31 in Claiborne County, Tennessee. The Claiborne County sheriff said a jail trustee discovered the bomb at about 10 a.m. August 31 while cleaning out the basement of the Claiborne County Courthouse on Main Street in Tazewell. "Our inmates have been spending time down there cleaning up and one of them found it buried," he said. The sheriff said his department alerted the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Knox County Bomb Squad, which traveled to Tazewell to set the bomb off as a precautionary measure. Officials detonated the bomb at a farm near the courthouse, he said. The bomb had been recovered as evidence from a 15-year-old case involving a man who used it to hold his family hostage in the Shawnee community. Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/aug/31/state-and-local-enforcement-detonate-bomb-found/>

**(Michigan) DPS, city announce steps to boost school security.** Detroit Public Schools (DPS) announced a district-wide safety initiative August 31 that will involve officers from multiple law enforcement groups to help keep children safe at school. One of the security measures DPS is taking this fall is adding security portals at each school, a \$534,000 investment. Metal detectors will also be utilized. "You know all too well that the biggest challenge facing DPS is safety," the district's emergency manager, said at a press conference August 31. The DPS police department has 51 officers and operates out of a \$9 million command center off I-75 and Clay. The initiative is a collaboration with Detroit Police, Michigan State Police, and other security groups. Schools will also issue ID badges to all students to ensure staff members know who is coming to and from each building. Another goal with the security measures is to develop safe routes to and from school in three problem areas — around Osborn, Denby, and Cody high schools, officials said. Source: <http://www.detnews.com/article/20110831/SCHOOLS/108310416/1026/DPS--city-announce-steps-to-boost-school-security>

**(Illinois) 3 hospitalized after suspicious package found at Scott Air Force Base.** Three people were taken to the hospital and 14 were decontaminated August 31 after workers in the Scott Air Force Base post office near Belleville, Illinois suffered almost simultaneous skin and respiratory reactions at 9:30 a.m. After what was termed an exhaustive investigation, investigators were not able to determine what caused the workers to become ill, a base spokeswoman said August 31. Investigators found nothing suspicious and no trace of a chemical or an odor, she said, noting whatever caused the workers' illnesses might have dissipated enough that it was not detected. FBI agents were investigating. Postal inspectors were also on site to offer help to Air Force personnel, said a U.S. Postal Service spokeswoman. The investigation was closed the night of August 31 after it was determined it was not a suspicious incident, the base spokeswoman said. All areas of the base that were closed August 31, except for the post office's mail center, were to be reopened September 1, including the areas where the clerks are stationed and where customers receive and send mail. The mail center — its distribution and processing area — was to remain closed another day for further

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monitoring and its functions moved to an alternative site. The mail was delivered on base August 31 with a 2-hour delay. Source: <http://www.bnd.com/2011/09/01/1842243/three-hospitalized-after-mysterious.html>

**(Illinois) Police: Man tried to back semi rig into courthouse.** A trucker upset about child-support matters was charged with felony criminal property damage after police said he intentionally tried backing his tractor-trailer into a courthouse August 29 in Edwardsville, Illinois. The Edwardsville police chief said 42-year-old man's attempt to ram the Madison County courthouse failed when the Collinsville man's semi rig got stuck on the property steps. The police said the man left the scene and surrendered at the nearby county jail. He was charged with criminal damage to state-supported property valued at more than \$500. He was jailed August 30 on \$25,000 bond. Source:

<http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local/illinois&id=8334901>

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**US cybersecurity officials warn of malicious email scams links to 9/11 or Hurricane Irene.** DHS officials are warning the public to beware of e-mail scams and possible cyberattacks related to Hurricane Irene and the upcoming 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, the Associated Press reported September 1. New bulletins issued in recent days by the DHS's cybersecurity center said computer users should be wary of e-mails with subject lines referring to the recent hurricane or the September 11th attacks, even if they appear to come from reputable sources. The e-mails could be phishing scams that masquerade as legitimate requests for personal information or fund-raising pleas and may include innocent-looking links to video or photos. Clicking on the links could download harmful viruses or take users to malicious Web sites. Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts-law/us-cybersecurity-officials-warn-of-malicious-e-mail-scams-links-to-911-or-hurricane-irene/2011/09/01/gIQAu5J2uJ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts-law/us-cybersecurity-officials-warn-of-malicious-e-mail-scams-links-to-911-or-hurricane-irene/2011/09/01/gIQAu5J2uJ_story.html)

**Hackers may have stolen over 200 SSL certificates.** Hackers may have obtained more than 200 digital certificates from a Dutch company after breaking into its network, including ones for Mozilla, Yahoo, and the Tor project, a security researcher reported August 31. The count is considerably higher than DigiNotar first acknowledged. Earlier the week of August 29, a company spokesman said "several dozen" certificates had been acquired by the attackers. "About 200 certificates were generated by the attackers," said the principal security consultant and founder of Madison Gurka, a Dutch security company, citing a source he said wished to remain confidential. Among the certificates acquired by the attackers in a mid-July hack of DigiNotar, the consultant's source said, were ones valid for mozilla.com, yahoo.com, and torproject.org. Mozilla confirmed a certificate for its add-on site had been obtained by the DigiNotar attackers. The consultant's number is similar to the tally of certificates that Google has blacklisted in Chrome. An entry in the Chromium bug-tracking database lists 247 certificates that the project blacklisted August 30. Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219663/Hackers\\_may\\_have\\_stolen\\_over\\_200\\_SSL\\_certificates](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219663/Hackers_may_have_stolen_over_200_SSL_certificates)

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**Google says Gmail attack focused on Iranian targets.** Google said August 28 an attack mounted against its Gmail service targeted users primarily located in Iran, although the company has taken steps to block further interception attempts. Google discovered that attackers had acquired a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) certificate valid for any Web site in the google.com domain. The SSL certificate is used to vouch for the authenticity of Web sites and protect against security threats such as —man-in-the-middle attacks. A Dutch certificate authority, DigiNotar, issued an SSL certificate for the google.com domain July 10, without Google's knowledge. It has since revoked the certificate. Using a fake certificate would allow attackers to capture the login details for a person's Gmail account without a warning coming from the browser that something suspicious is happening, allowing them access to the e-mail account. Google said —the people affected were primarily located in Iran, although the company did not detail further if it believed their accounts were compromised. To perform the attack, an attacker would need to —poison a Domain Name System (DNS) cache. DNS is used to lookup the IP address for where a domain is located, but many organizations run their own DNS servers that caches the information to speed the lookup process up, updating it periodically. That tampering could allow a random IP address to appear as a —\*google.com site. Combined with the fraudulent certificate that fools the Web browser's warning system, a person would not know if they were hacked. Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219582/Google\\_says\\_Gmail\\_attack\\_focused\\_on\\_Iranian\\_targets](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9219582/Google_says_Gmail_attack_focused_on_Iranian_targets)

**Fake Facebook spam cannon fires double-shotted malware.** Malicious spam messages generated by the Cutwail botnet are targeting Facebook users as potential banking trojan victims. The messages arrive in the guise of a Facebook friend invite notification. The e-mails look genuine on casual inspection, due to the malware-spinners' apparent use of a genuine Facebook template. But where a genuine Facebook invite contains links to the real social networking site, the malicious e-mails feature custom links to malware sites. In addition, the e-mails differ from the genuine article because they do not feature Facebook profile photos. The recipient's e-mail address is also absent from the fine print at the bottom of the bogus invites. Users tricked into clicking on the malicious link are exposed to a double-barrelled malware based attack. First, they are offered a bogus Adobe Flash update. In addition, clicking on the link opens a hidden iFrame, which then loads data from a remote server hosting the Blackhole Exploit Kit. The exploit kit attempts to exploit browser security holes, most notably involving insecure Java installations. Both techniques attempt to download a variant of the infamous zeus banking trojan onto compromised systems. Impersonating e-mail notifications from Facebook is a common technique among spammers and purveyors of survey scams, but no one has seen it applied to punt banking trojans before. Source:

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/08/30/facebook\\_spam\\_punts\\_zeus\\_trojan/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/08/30/facebook_spam_punts_zeus_trojan/)

**Malvertising spotted on Google's DoubleClick.** Security researchers from Web security vendor Armorize spotted malicious ads on Google's DoubleClick network that lead to drive-by download exploits. —In the past few days, our scanners noticed malvertising on Google DoubleClick. The malvertisement is being provided to DoubleClick by Adify (Now a part of Cox

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Digital Solutions), and to Adify by Pulpo Media, and to Pulpo Media by the malicious attackers pretending to be advertisers: indistic.com, the Armorize experts warn. —The malvertisement causes visitor browsers to load exploits from kokojamba.cz.cc (the exploit domain), which is running the BlackHole exploit pack. Currently, 7 out of 44 vendors on VirusTotal can detect this malware, they add. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Malvertizing-Spotted-on-Google-s-DoubleClick-218988.shtml>

**Hacker steals user data from Nokia developer forum.** A vulnerability in its forum software has been exploited by a hacker to compromise mobile phone maker Nokia's developer forum. The attacker used SQL injection to access the forum database at developer.nokia.com and, according to Nokia, obtained e-mail addresses of registered users. Where configured to be publicly available, the table also includes details such as the user's date of birth, Web site URL and Skype, ICQ or other IM username; this is reported to be the case for around 7 percent of users. The database did not contain passwords or credit card information. The issue does not, according to Nokia, affect any other Nokia accounts. The attacker, calling himself pr0tect0r AKA mrNRG, temporarily redirected the developer forum to a site containing a message for Nokia. Nokia apologized for the incident and has temporarily taken the forum offline. The company states that, although the vulnerability was fixed immediately, it is still investigating the incident. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Hacker-steals-user-data-from-Nokia-developer-forum-1332867.html>

**Sophisticated file infector powers click fraud scam.** Security researchers from Symantec uncovered a click fraud scam instrumented with the help of a sophisticated file infector. It was the infector, W32.Xpaj.B, that attracted the attention of malware analysts with its complex detection-evading techniques. W32.Xpaj.B infects executable files on computers and network drives which then query the command and control servers every time they are run. Despite resembling a general purpose downloader, W32.Xpaj.B has only been used as part of this click fraud scheme that hijacks legitimate search engine queries and returns ad-laden results. The infrastructure supporting this operation spans several countries, but unlike the file infector, the server-side code is unsophisticated. This has led researchers to believe that the dropper might have been bought from a third-party. The scam itself is similar to the one that recently led to Google displaying malware warnings on its search site. The search queries are passed through a series of proxies and when results are returned, they are accompanied by rogue ads. Symantec's researchers managed to reverse-engineer the encrypted code and obtain access to the —accounting back-end which held logs going back as far as September 2010. The extracted data shows that fraudsters intercepted an average of 241,000 searches per day until June 2011, which resulted in profits of \$170 per day. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Sophisticated-File-Infector-Used-in-Click-Fraud-Scam-219190.shtml>

## **NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS**

(Texas; Oklahoma) Residents evacuated as firefighters battle blaze in parched Texas. High winds August 31 whipped up a spreading wildfire in northern Texas as firefighters battled

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several fires across the tinder-dry state. A raging grass fire in Oklahoma City, meanwhile, claimed several structures, including a barn, affiliate KFOR 4 Oklahoma City reported. Homes were evacuated. The 101 Ranch fire in Palo Pinto County grew to about 7,500 acres August 31, and it was unclear how much had been contained, the Texas Forest Service reported. The fire was centered around the south side of Possum Kingdom Lake outside Brad, about 50 miles west of the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area. Observers on the opposite shore were forced to pull back when winds around 20 mph carried embers across the lake. The fire destroyed at least 39 homes, according to the Forest Service, and another 125 households were evacuated. Firefighters were getting support from aerial tankers and helicopters that were dropping water on the fire. Nine RVs were burned. The cause of the fire was not immediately clear. A record 3.5 million acres have burned in Texas since the start of the season last November as hot and dry weather, coupled with a historic drought, have made conditions ripe for rapid fire growth. Firefighters are battling nine wildfires, which have consumed about 16,000 acres, the Forest Service said. Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/US/08/31/texas.fire/>

### **POSTAL AND SHIPPING**

**(Iowa) Empty briefcase causes 2-hour bomb scare.** An unattended briefcase caused a 2-hour bomb scare August 31 at a post office in Davenport, Iowa. Workers found the briefcase in the lobby and called authorities around 3:20 p.m. The building was closed down and evacuated. Television station KWQC 6 Davenport said a bomb squad was called in. The squad's dog checked out the area, but it detected nothing. The squad then X-rayed the briefcase before it was opened. It was empty. Source: <http://www.kcci.com/news/29047979/detail.html>

**(Florida) Postal workers complain of sickness after handling mail.** The all-clear has been given and employees were allowed back inside Tampa, Florida's main post office, after several workers became sick while handling some mail August 29. Tampa Fire Rescue's Hazardous Materials Team responded to the scene and evacuated the building's first floor after two workers complained of nausea and dizziness after smelling a licorice type of odor coming from a package. One of the sickened employees was taken to the hospital, where he is listed in stable condition. The postal service says it appears grease leaking from a package was the culprit, but offered no further details. Officials ruled the substance was not hazardous and ended the evacuation. The post office is located at 3501 Bessie Coleman Boulevard, just off the approach to Tampa International Airport. Officials say no air travel was affected by the incident. Source: <http://www.wtsp.com/rss/article/207946/8/HAZMAT-call-at-Tampa-Post-Office>

**(Pennsylvania) Teens nearly airmail postal worker with bomb.** Two 13-year-old boys are facing aggravated-assault charges after slipping a homemade bomb into a postal worker's mail cart August 25, police said. At about 3 p.m. a postal worker was delivering mail on Farson Street near Arch in west Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, when the teens crept up to her cart and stuffed a bottle bomb inside. When the postal worker began walking back - to the cart, police said a witness told her the canvas cart was going to blow. —An explosion occurs, the flap of the mail cart flies open and bits of paper flew around-landing on the sidewalk, said a spokesman of the Southwest Detective Division said. The postal worker called 9-1-1 and was taken to

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Presbyterian Hospital after complaining of breathing difficulties. The bomb was made of household cleaning liquids and aluminum foil that were mixed in an empty water bottle.

Source: [http://articles.philly.com/2011-08-27/news/29934997\\_1\\_postal-worker-bottle-bomb-cart](http://articles.philly.com/2011-08-27/news/29934997_1_postal-worker-bottle-bomb-cart)

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Kids carrying MRSA germ prone to serious infection.** Hospitalized children who carry the bacteria methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) but show no signs of illness are still at high risk for developing full-blown infections, a new study finds. Researchers at Johns Hopkins Children's Center in Baltimore examined the medical records of 3,140 children admitted to the pediatric intensive care unit between 2007 and 2010. Of those children, 153 arrived at the hospital already colonized with MRSA; the bacteria was living in the nose or on the skin but not causing infection. The antibiotic-resistant bacteria is linked to more than 18,600 deaths a year in the United States. Compared to non-carriers, the children who carried MRSA before they arrived at the hospital were nearly six times more likely to develop invasive MRSA infections after discharge, and eight times more likely to develop them while still in the hospital. Invasive MRSA infections are serious infections that affect the whole body, and they can be life-threatening. Source:

[http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory\\_115989.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/news/fullstory_115989.html)

**Insiders behind most breaches of patient health data.** A new report published August 31 by Veriphys found that employees peeking at other employees' medical records was the most common source of hospital record breaching (35 percent), followed by snooping into friends' and relatives' records (27 percent), loss or theft of physical records (25 percent), and loss/theft of equipment housing patient data (20 percent). It took anywhere from 1 to 3 days (30 percent) to 2 to 4 weeks (17 percent) for the healthcare organizations surveyed to detect a breach; 25 percent of them said they resolved it within 2 to 4 weeks, 18 percent in 1 week, and 16 percent in 1 to 3 days. Nearly 80 percent were concerned that their existing tools do not detect these breaches in a timely way. And more than half said they do not have tools for monitoring unauthorized or inappropriate access to their patient data. Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/insider-threat/167801100/security/attacks-breaches/231600598/insiders-behind-most-breaches-of-patient-health-data.html>

**New study links pesticide exposure to prostate cancer.** A new study finds that older men living in California's Central Valley are more likely to develop prostate cancer if they were exposed to certain agricultural pesticides than those who were not exposed. The study examines exposure via drift rather than occupational exposure, although similar results have been noted in farmworker populations. Exposure to methyl bromide or various organochlorine pesticides increased the risk of cancer by about one and a half times. The study, "Prostate cancer and ambient pesticide exposure in agriculturally intensive areas in California," was published in the June 2011 issue of the American Journal of Epidemiology. This is not the first study to link pesticide exposure to prostate cancer. In 2008, University of California Davis Cancer Center research showed that Vietnam War veterans exposed to Agent Orange have greatly increased

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risks of prostate cancer and even greater risks of getting the most aggressive form of the disease as compared to those who were not exposed. Based on medical evaluations conducted between 1998 and 2006, the study identified twice as many men exposed to Agent Orange with prostate cancer. In addition, Agent Orange-exposed men were diagnosed two-and-a-half years younger and were nearly four times more likely to present with metastatic disease. Source: <http://www.eneuspf.com/latest-news/science-a-environmental/26555-new-study-links-pesticide-exposure-to-prostate-cancer.html>

**(Wisconsin) Wisconsin clinic warns of possible exposure to HIV, other diseases.** Dean Clinic officials in Madison, Wisconsin, are trying to contact 2,345 patients August 29 after a nurse apparently spent five years improperly using diabetic injection devices on them, potentially exposing them to blood-borne diseases such as HIV. Clinic officials are trying to contact patients who saw the nurse from 2006 and until she left her job two weeks ago. They want the patients to come in for testing for HIV as well as hepatitis B and C. State and local health officials said they are monitoring the situation, but no one had detected any diseases connected to the nurse as of August 29. The clinic's chief medical officer said the nurse is a certified diabetic educator. Earlier this month, another clinic employee reported that the nurse was improperly using a device known as an insulin demonstration pen, which resembles a large hypodermic needle and injects insulin into the bloodstream, as well as a more widely-known finger prick device for blood tests. The nurse was supposed to demonstrate how to use the pen on pillows and oranges, but an internal investigation showed she was using the same pen on people. She used clean needles each time, but using the pen on a person could allow a microscopic backwash of blood to flow back into the pen's reservoir, potentially contaminating it and putting the next patient at risk. Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-wisconsin-clinic-warns-of-possible-exposure-to-hiv-other-diseases-20110830,0,7039105.story>

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Planes, trains, buses return to normal – almost.** August 30, the nation's transportation system was nearly back to normal. While planes and buses were operating on near-normal schedules, throughout the day Amtrak remained paralyzed between New York and Philadelphia. Late in the day, railroad officials announced that flooding had receded, repairs were made, and service would resume August 31. Only a handful of flights were canceled August 30 compared with more than 1,700 August 29, according to flight tracking service FlightAware. A total of 14,000 flights were scrapped in the days before, during, and after the storm. Most airlines said the backlog of stranded passengers would be cleared by the end of August 30. Delta said it could have moved more passengers to their destinations on-time if not for New York airport officials' decision to shut down at noon August 27. The airline planned to keep flying through the evening and canceled additional flights to adjust. The aviation director for the agency that runs New York airports said the shutdown of the city's public transit system — which most employees use to get to work — affected its decision to close the airports. Amtrak resumed service between New York and Boston August 30. BoltBus was fully booked August 28 and 29, according to a spokesman for its parent company Greyhound. The only cancellation for

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Greyhound was its route between Albany and Syracuse. Megabus also saw an increase in passengers who had tried to get around by other means. All buses were running again, but some kept their speeds down on roads other than interstate highways as a precaution. Source: <http://libn.com/2011/08/31/planes-trains-buses-return-to-normal-almost/>

**CSX recovery operation continues following Hurricane Irene.** Working as —safely and rapidly as possible, CSX continues to recover from the impact of Hurricane Irene in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions. The company's freight operations are moving steadily towards full recovery, and commuter train services in the Washington, D.C. and Boston areas were restored August 30. The company is continuing to work through power outages, localized flooding, and debris on tracks, which is slowing some freight operations. Many signals and highway crossing warning devices are being powered temporarily by generators until commercial power can be restored. While flood waters are receding in many parts of the CSX network impacted by the storm, flooding in New York and New Jersey remains a significant obstacle. Crews and materials, including rock ballast, are on hand for necessary repairs as quickly as possible. The company's Curtis Bay export pier in Baltimore, Maryland, resumed operations August 28, while export piers served by CSX at Newport News, Virginia, were expected to resume operations August 30. Eastbound intermodal traffic was held temporarily in Chicago until receivers are able to take deliveries. As of August 30, no intermodal trains were operating out of Boston; Kearny, Little Ferry, and North Bergen, New Jersey; Philadelphia; or Springfield, Massachusetts. However, intermodal terminals serving those locations are open and will resume rail service as tracks are restored. TRANSFLO terminals in the affected area are also back in operation. Source: <http://www.rail.co/2011/08/30/csx-recovery-operation-continues-following-hurricane-irene/>

**(Vermont) Nearly every major Vermont highway damaged.** Vermont is littered with flooding August 29. Torrential rains from Tropical Storm Irene washed through the state and flooded towns from Brattleboro to St. Johnsbury. About 50,000 homes and businesses were without power. Dozens of people stayed overnight at a series of emergency shelters. Roads are in miserable shape. Nearly every major highway in the state has been damaged. There are washouts and bridge failures. Town roads are almost as bad. The state's Emergency Operations Center in Waterbury had to be evacuated when the Winooski River flooded the state public safety building. Source: [http://www.vpr.net/news\\_detail/91784/](http://www.vpr.net/news_detail/91784/)

## **WATER AND DAMS**

**In wake of Irene, rivers tested for E. coli, pesticides.** In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, federal officials are actively sampling water from six East Coast rivers to check for E. coli, pesticides, and other hazards that may have washed into waterways. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) announced August 29 that it dispatched field crews to assess water quality in the wake of widespread flooding due to the hurricane-turned-tropical storm Irene. The USGS Water Science Centers are to collect samples from the Charles River, Connecticut River, Delaware River, Hudson River, Raritan River, and the Susquehanna River, and test for nutrients, sediment, carbon, E. coli, and pesticides. Heavy rainfall from large storms can flush nutrients, sewage, pesticides, and bacteria into rivers, and can result in higher concentrations of E.coli in surface

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water used for drinking. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/08/in-wake-of-hurricane-irene-rivers-tested-for-e-coli-pesticides/>

### **Arsenic, uranium, and other trace elements, a potential concern in private drinking wells.**

About 20 percent of untreated water samples from public, private, and monitoring wells across the nation contain concentrations of at least one trace element, such as arsenic, manganese, and uranium, at levels of potential health concern, according to a new study by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). —In public wells these contaminants are regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and contaminants are removed from the water before people drink it, said a USGS hydrologist and lead author on the study. —However, trace elements could be present in water from private wells at levels that are considered to pose a risk to human health, because they aren't subject to regulations. Most trace elements, including manganese and arsenic, get into the water through the natural process of rock weathering. Radon, derived from naturally occurring uranium in aquifers, also occurs frequently at high levels in groundwater. Human activities like mining, waste disposal, and construction also can contribute to trace elements in groundwater. The findings are based on over 5,000 samples collected primarily from public and private wells nationwide. Source:

<http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2914&from=rss>

**(Maryland) 17 million gallons of sewage a day flowing into Chesapeake Bay.** Baltimore County Department of Public Works (DPW) reported August 30 that Hurricane Irene, last week's earthquake, or a combination of both have caused a major sewage line to break in Baltimore County, Maryland. DPW said it is a 54 inch main in the south part of the county in a neighborhood called the Baltimore Highlands. The pipe transports about 17 million gallons of sewage daily from the western half of the county into the city treatment plant. This overflow is on-going and cannot be shut off during work, resulting in 17 million gallons of raw sewage a day pouring into a small river which leads to the harbor and then the Chesapeake Bay. DPW says the repairs should be completed by September 2. Nearly half of the county's stations were affected by Hurricane Irene. In several cases where power is supplied to the stations through 2 independent electrical feeds, both feeds were knocked out of service. At other stations trees downed over power lines prevented crews from accessing the stations with generators until Baltimore Gas and Electric could confirm the power lines were not charged. The following bodies of water were affected: Big Gunpowder Falls, Patapsco River, Bird River, Beaver Dam Run, Shallow Creek, Old Road Bay, Back River, Lake Roland, Jones Creek, North Branch River, and Jones Falls. Baltimore County's Department of Health (Environmental Health Services) will monitor water quality in the Patapsco area affected by the overflow and will publish water contact advisories when necessary on the Agency's website. DPW believes the pre-stressed concrete cylinders used to create the main line may be linked to a troubled batch produced in the 1970's that are now known to fail. Source:

[http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/region/baltimore\\_county/millions-of-gallons-of-sewage-overflow](http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/region/baltimore_county/millions-of-gallons-of-sewage-overflow)

**(New Jersey) Dams reported damaged or overrun in Pemberton Township.** Emergency officials are investigating reports of damaged dams in Pemberton Township, New Jersey. The Bayberry

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Dam in the Browns Mills section of the township was reported to be compromised with possible structural damage, a county spokesman said August 28. Hanover Dam is also reported to be overrun with water. Waters on the north branch of the Rancocas Creek are nearing a foot above flood stage and are expected to continue rising through the afternoon high tide. Pemberton Township emergency officials ordered mandatory evacuations of its portion of the flood-prone Ewansville section near the creek August 28. Most residents had already left, officials said. Officials anticipate that several of the homes in the section will suffer flood damage. No injuries have been reported throughout the storm. Source:

[http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/burlington\\_county\\_times\\_news/dams-reported-damaged-or-overrun-in-pemberton-township/article\\_9eea146d-17a7-56ed-9981-0af302e9760c.html](http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/burlington_county_times_news/dams-reported-damaged-or-overrun-in-pemberton-township/article_9eea146d-17a7-56ed-9981-0af302e9760c.html)

**(Maryland) Diluted sewage overflows wastewater treatment plants.** Due to a Hurricane Irene-related power loss, diluted sewage overflowed from a wastewater treatment plant in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's (WSSC) Western Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant lost power August 28 and was running on generators, though not fully operational, according to a WSSC spokeswoman. The quantity of overflowing sewage has not been determined but WSSC should have an accurate account of the volume when power is restored. The WSSC provides drinking water and treats wastewater for Prince George's and Montgomery counties. Water is still safe to drink and is not affected by the overflow of diluted sewage. The Broad Creek Wastewater Pumping Station in Fort Washington also lost power around 10 p.m. August 27 and was overflowing as a result of excessive rain. It was fully operating on generators. The Piscataway Wastewater Treatment Plant in Accokeek also lost power August 27 night as a result of the hurricane, but power was fully restored around 2 a.m. August 28. An undetermined amount of diluted sewage overflowed during the outage. Source: <http://www.gazette.net/article/20110828/NEWS/799999773/1029/1029/diluted-sewage-overflows-wastewater-treatment-plants&template=gazette>

## **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS**

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center:** 866-885-8295 (IN ND ONLY); Email: [ndslic@nd.gov](mailto:ndslic@nd.gov); Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

Kirk Hagel, ND Division of Homeland Security [kihagel@nd.gov](mailto:kihagel@nd.gov), 701-328-8168

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